

For Immediate Release August 30, 2004

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Sale of 40 Acres brings BLM \$1.6 Million

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) auctioned off 39.47 acres of land in a competitive bid sale today. Philip Phillippou LLC successfully outbid four other competitors, purchasing the almost 40 acres for \$1.6 million.

The north end of the tract of land runs along Sonora Springs Blvd. The land will facilitate orderly development in a key area for city expansion.

The 40 acres is protected by a special stipulation so the arroyo running through the property will remain undeveloped and open so the public can have continued recreational access.

"We are excited about the value of this sale," said Las Cruces Field Office Manager Ed Roberson. "We hope to use this money to buy valuable and unique properties around the state."

Twenty percent of the monies from the land sale will stay with BLM to help cover the cost of future sales, while eighty percent will go into the Baca Fund, established for various federal resource management to agencies purchase unique and valuable natural resources.

